ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and system for transparent file proxying allows an intelligent storage appliance (ISA) that connects a remote computer connected to a local area network (LAN) through a wide area network (WAN) to locally provide to the remote computer files that would otherwise be obtained from a computing device connected to the LAN over the WAN. Based upon policies that include user policies, group policies and corporate policies, selected files are transferred (or mirrored) from the computing devices connected to the LAN to the ISA. When the remote computer desires to access a file, the ISA intercepts and analyzes the file request. If the ISA determines that the requested file is one that is locally stored on the ISA, the ISA intercepts and services the request locally (thereby preventing the request from traversing the WAN), and transparently proxies the selected file to the remote computer. A user of the remote computer views the file, unaware that the file is locally provided by the ISA. If the user modifies the file, the ISA forwards data necessary to reconstruct a modified copy of the file to a computing device connected to the LAN, thereby maintaining file integrity between the file located on a computing device connected to the LAN and the copy locally stored on the ISA. Similarly, if a file that is locally stored on the ISA is modified while on the computing device connected to the LAN, data necessary to reconstruct an updated version of the file is forwarded (mirrored) to the ISA.